

EXPRESS MAIL NO. EV343636591US

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Toshio Taomo et al.

Serial No. : (Not Yet Assigned) Examiner : (Not Yet Assigned)

Filed : (Not Yet Assigned) Group Art Unit : (Not Yet Assigned)

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August 13, 2003
Date of Deposit

Richard G. Berkley
Attorney Name

25,465
PTO Registration No.


Signature

August 13, 2003
Date of Signature

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Arlington, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Enclosed herewith are patents and/or publications for consideration by the Patent and Trademark Office in regard to the invention claimed in the above-described application. In compliance with §1.56, such documents are listed in the enclosed Form PTO-1449.

Applicants request that the Patent and Trademark Office make of record the above-identified documents. Unless otherwise indicated, a full text copy of each document is attached. For documents not in English, an English translation or an

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equivalent English language patent or publication is attached. Where a translation is not available, a concise explanation of the relevance of each document not in English is included either here or in the specification.

Identification of the documents listed in the attached PTO 1449 Form is not to be construed as an admission of Applicants or Attorneys for Applicants that such documents are available as "prior art" against the above-identified application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted according to the following selected paragraph:

I. X

This Statement is being filed under §1.97(b) within three months of the filing date of the application, or before the first Office Action.

II.

This Statement is being filed under §1.97(c), with fee, prior to either a final action or a notice of allowance. A check for the fee required by §1.17(p) and a duplicate copy of this Statement is enclosed.

III.

This Statement is being filed under §1.97(c), with a statement under, §1.97(e) prior to either a final action or a notice of allowance. The undersigned hereby states that (check one):

each item of information in this Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.

no item of information in this Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing this statement under §1.97(e) after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.

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IV.

This Statement is being filed under §1.97(d), with petition and statement under §1.97(e), after a final action or a notice of allowance but prior to payment of the issue fee. The undersigned hereby petitions that this Statement be considered prior to issuance of the patent. A check for the fee required by §1.17(i) and a duplicate copy of this statement is enclosed. The undersigned hereby states that (check one):

each item of information in this Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement. A copy of the communication is enclosed.

no item of information in this Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing this statement under §1.97(e) after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.

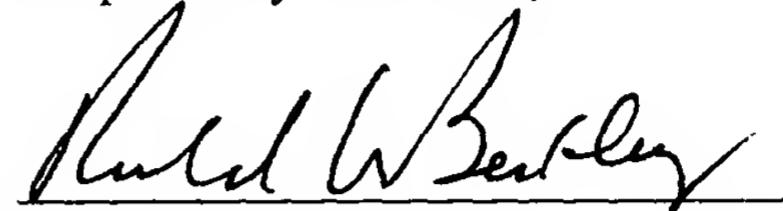
V.

Copies of the above-cited art were submitted to or cited by the Patent and Trademark Office under parent application Serial No. ____ / ____ and therefore additional copies of this art are unnecessary.

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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fee to
Deposit Account No. 02-4377.

Respectfully submitted,



Richard G. Berkley
Patent Office Reg. No. 25,465

Dated: August 13, 2003

Gary M. Butter
Patent Office Reg. No. 33,841

BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-4498

Attorney for Applicant
(212) 408-2554

Enclosures

Form PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce (REV. 2-82) Patent and Trademark Office	Atty. Docket No. A35880 - 072595.0229	Serial No. (Not Yet Assigned)
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)	Applicant T. Taomo et al.	
	Filing Date (Not Yet Assigned)	Group (Not Yet Assigned)

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENT

OTHER DOCUMENTS (including Author, Title Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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NY02:453654.1

Examiner _____ Date Considered _____

* Examiner: Initial citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.